



DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES
OFFICE ON AGING
Sue Vaeth, Administrator

Howard County Department of Citizen Services Home Accessibility and Repair Program

The purpose of the program is to:

- Assist Howard County residents of all income levels in identifying home modification needs and resources to promote Aging In Place.
- Provide financial assistance to qualified homeowners who cannot otherwise finance accessibility or repair expenses for their homes.
- Increase the supply of safe, affordable, and accessible housing in Howard County.

Repairs are made for qualified homeowners necessary to eliminate health, safety and property maintenance deficiencies or ensure compliance with applicable codes and standards.

What kinds of repairs are considered health and safety related?

- Home Accessibility (i.e. access ramps, doorway widening, visual alert signalers)
- Grab Bar Installation
- Water and Sewer connections
- Plumbing repairs or replacement
- Central heating or air conditioning system repairs or replacement
- Home insulation
- Roof repairs
- Electrical system repairs
- Hot water heater repair or replacement
- Repair or replacement of stoves, refrigerators, smoke detectors, or security devices

What kinds of repairs are NOT covered?

- Initial installation of air conditioning system (unless medically necessary)
- Installation or repair of window air conditioners or similar removable devices
- Repairs or renovations to areas not used as main living areas
- Tree removal or landscaping work
- Washer/Dryer

Who is eligible? A qualified homeowner:

- **Is 62+ years (or resides with a person 62+ years)**
- **Is a person with a disability of any age (or resides with a person of any age with a disability as defined by regulations)**
- **Owns and occupies the dwelling in Howard County to be repaired**

- **Annual gross family income cannot exceed HUD's established low to moderate income limits**

| Family Size | Total Family Gross Annual Income |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | \$0 - \$43,050 |
| 2 | \$0 - \$49,200 |
| 3 | \$0 - \$55,350 |
| 4 | \$0 - \$61,500 |
| 5 | \$0 - \$66,400 |
| 6 | \$0 - \$71,350 |
| 7 | \$0 - \$76,250 |
| 8 | \$0 - \$81,200 |

Note:

- **Applicants will be approved on a need basis with priority given to lower income status. Services are subject to the availability of funds.**
- **A grant may not exceed \$5,000, except for emergency repair expenses for conditions determined to be a threat to the health and safety of the homeowner or the public.**

What is the process to apply?

- Call our Information and Assistance line at 410-313-5980 (Deaf and Hard of Hearing callers use Relay 711) about the repairs and modifications you need for your home.
- Our home repair staff will contact you to discuss your needs. Options and resources will be explored.
- Based upon preliminary eligibility, an application packet will be mailed.
- Complete the application and return it to our office.
- Our staff will call you and arrange to make a site visit to determine the extent of the repairs and provide recommendations and resources.
- Your application will then be reviewed for eligibility.
- If you qualify for assistance, you will work with our office to choose a qualified contractor, and our staff oversees the necessary contract agreement prior to repairs. The contractor will then be paid through the County after the work is completed and inspected.

Applications will be maintained and eligible for assistance during a one-year period. After one-year, those applicants not assisted will become void. This program is subject to funding availability.

To Discuss the Home Repair Program, call

410-313-5980

Alternative formats of this publication available upon request.

This program is made possible by funds through the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grants (CDBG).

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Reference: Howard County Code Section 12.900 et seq